

RECEIVED  
JUL 1957  
P.

MAESTEG URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

---

A N N U A L

R E P O R T

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

- 1956 -

---





MAESTEG URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

---

A N N U A L  
R E P O R T  
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR

- 1956 -

---

D. W. FOSTER  
B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.



MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL  
(1956)

---

Councillor D.M. Thomas, J.P., Chairman

Councillor Enoch J. Llewellyn, Vice-Chairman

Councillors : Arthur D. Edwards; Harry Shearan; M.G. Griffiths;  
Brinley Richards; Morgan Jones; C.M. Jones; Mrs. M.A. Harries;  
Garfield Collins; T.J. Jones; Edgar Thomas; Richard Mordecai;  
Stanley Lewis; Mrs. E. Kennedy; County Councillor Llewellyn Evans.

---

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

---

D.W. FOSTER, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,  
Assistant County Medical Officer

D. MORGAN THOMAS, Chief Public Health Inspector

Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspection of Meat & Other  
Foods, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute,  
General Hygiene Diploma (Advanced) and School Hygiene Diploma, Royal  
Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

IVOR DAVIES, B.Sc., Public Health Inspector

Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute and Meat & Other Foods Certificate,  
Royal Sanitary Institute

---

Clerk :-

DAVID B. THOMAS

---

Rodent Operative :-

HAROLD M. BARROW



Public Health Department,

Maesteg, Glam.

November, 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of the Maesteg  
Urban District Council.

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration the Annual Report on the work of the Department for the year 1956. The contents and arrangement of the Report are in accordance with the Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS :

The infant mortality rate for 1956 (24.13) shows a welcome reduction from previous years, comparing very favourably with the rate for Glamorgan County (30.27), and is only a little above that for England and Wales (23.8). Too much importance must not be attached to the rate for a single year with a relatively small population, but a preliminary study of the infant deaths for 1957 (January to October), indicates that the improvement has continued.

The agencies which have brought about the recent dramatic reduction of infant mortality in England and Wales may be classified as follows :-

(i) The general improvement in the standard of living.

(ii) The curative medical services (general practitioners, consultants and hospitals) which, with the help of new drugs, have reduced the death rate among infants substantially.

(iii) The services of the Local Authorities, which have had a powerful effect in this field over a long period. These comprise :

- (a) The personal health services run by the major authorities,
- and (b) The environmental services of the County Districts.

It is for these environmental services that the Maesteg Council is responsible, and as far as the health of infants is concerned the most important aspect of the authorities' work is that connected with housing. The Council has built 657 houses since the War, bringing the total of Council-owned houses to 816 (excluding 19 sold to tenants).





Unfortunately the "dear money" policy at present being pursued by the central government is having a doubly unfortunate effect. Firstly, the rents of recently completed houses are very high, and secondly the building of council houses may well come to a complete standstill with the further rise in the Bank Rate to seven per cent.

The new Rent Act (1957) may eventually help to ease the housing situation by ensuring a better distribution of the population among existing privately-owned property, but of course the social benefits of this may be diminished by the increase in rents.

#### CAUSES OF DEATH :

A study of the causes of death reveals the gradually changing pattern of disease in the community. Diseases caused by organisms invading the body, such as Diphtheria and Pneumonia are playing an ever decreasing role among the causes of death, while other diseases such as cancer of the lung and coronary heart disease show signs of increase. Different methods will have to be used by those working in the field of public health to study and counteract these diseases which are becoming more prevalent. More use may have to be made of health education; for example if the public could be persuaded to smoke fewer cigarettes, then it is almost certain that the incidence of many diseases (including lung cancer, bronchitis, and to a lesser extent coronary thrombosis) would decline considerably.

#### FOOD HYGIENE :

An important step forward in public health regulations took place during 1956, when the Food Hygiene Regulations (1955) came into force. Whilst these regulations are undoubtedly a step in the right direction, they are not sufficiently comprehensive to reduce the number of cases of food poisoning. Furthermore the wording of the regulations is not entirely free from ambiguity, and this has given rise to a good deal of confusion.

I must record, however, that in the great majority of cases the Department has had the full co-operation of the trade in Maesteg, and the application of the regulations has resulted in considerable improvements being made in many premises.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their interest and support in all public health matters, and also to the staff of the Health Department for their co-operation and enthusiasm.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,  
Yours faithfully,

D. W. FOSTER.

Medical Officer of Health.



GENERAL STATISTICS  
MAESTEG URBAN DISTRICT

---

Area in Acres	....	....	....	....	6,709
Population 1956 (Estimated)		....	....	....	22,660
" 1891 Census	....	....	....	....	9,471
" 1901 "	....	....	....	....	15,015
" 1911 "	....	....	....	....	24,977
" 1921 "	....	....	....	....	28,960
" 1931 "	....	....	....	....	25,552
" 1951 "	....	....	....	....	23,124

Rateable Value at 1.4.57.	....	....	....	£135,645
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	....	....	....	£500

				<u>Per 1,000 Live Persons</u>
Birth Rate for 1956	....	....	....	16.62
Average Birth Rate for previous 10 years		....	....	19.61
Death Rate (from All Causes) for 1956		....	....	13.00
Average Death Rate for previous 10 years		....	....	12.51
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis for 1956			....	0.26
Average Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis for previous 10 years	....	....	....	0.51
Death Rate from Other Forms of Tuberculosis for 1956			....	0.00
Infantile Mortality Rate for 1956	....	....	....	24.13
Average Infantile Mortality Rate for previous 10 years	....	....	....	44.73



EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS  
MAESTEG URBAN DISTRICT

---

Births :-

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	185	174	359
Illegitimate	...	...	...	5	9	14
Still-Births	...	...	...	4	4	8
Birth Rate	...	...	...		16.62	
Birth Rate, England & Wales			...		15.70	

Deaths :-

Males	-	131	Females	-	101	Total	-	232
Crude Death Rate		...			...			10.24
Comparability Factor		...			...			1.27
Corrected Death Rate		...			...			13.00
Death Rate, England & Wales					...			11.70

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :-

Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births		0.00
--	--	------

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :-

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0
Total	...	...	...	...	9
Rate per 1,000 Live Births			...	...	24.13

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age :-

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0
Total	...	...	...	...	6
Rate per 1,000 Live Births			...	...	16.09

Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0
Deaths from Measles, all ages	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough, all ages	0



SUMMARY OF THE CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES  
AND THEIR RATES FOR THE YEAR 1956  
(Civilian and Non-Civilian)  
Maesteg Urban District

		Number of Deaths			Rate per 1,000
		M	F	Total	
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	4	2	6	0.26
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms ...	0	0	0	0.00
3.	Syphilitic Disease ...	1	0	1	0.04
4.	Diphtheria ...	0	0	0	0.00
5.	Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0	0.00
6.	Meningococcal Infections ...	0	0	0	0.00
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0	0	0	0.00
8.	Measles ...	0	0	0	0.00
9.	Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases ...	1	0	1	0.04
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ...	5	5	10	0.44
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	5	0	5	0.22
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, breast ...	0	5	5	0.22
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus ...	0	2	2	0.09
14.	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	12	16	28	1.24
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	1	1	2	0.09
16.	Diabetes ...	0	0	0	0.00
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	15	14	29	1.28
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina ...	20	6	26	1.15
19.	Hypertension, with Heart Disease ...	1	0	1	0.04
20.	Other Heart Disease ...	25	35	60	2.65
21.	Other Circulatory Disease ...	4	1	5	0.22
22.	Influenza ...	0	0	0	0.00
23.	Pneumonia ...	3	1	4	0.18
24.	Bronchitis ...	12	3	15	0.66
25.	Other Diseases of respiratory system ...	3	0	3	0.13
26.	Ulcer of stomach & duodenum ...	1	1	2	0.09
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea ...	0	0	0	0.00
28.	Nephritis & Nephrosis ...	0	1	1	0.04
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1	0	1	0.04
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	0	0	0	0.00
31.	Congenital Malformations ...	0	2	2	0.09
32.	Other Defined & Ill-Defined Diseases ...	11	4	15	0.66
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	1	0	1	0.04
34.	All Other Accidents ...	4	2	6	0.26
35.	Suicide ...	1	0	1	0.04
36.	Homicide & Operations of War ...	0	0	0	0.00

ALL CAUSES :      Males - 131      Females - 101  
                         Total - 232  
                         Rate per 1,000 - 13.00







GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY) - VITAL STATISTICS, 1956.

	Estimated Population 1956	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INF'T MORTALITY		NEO-NAT. MORTALITY			
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 population		Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population		Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1,000 live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
			Crude	Adjusted		Crude	Adjusted				
England & Wales											
Administ. County	738,000	11,629	15.70	15.60	9,053	11.70	13.99	23.80	236	20.29	
Urban Districts	534,500	8,574	16.04	15.88	6,533	12.27	14.05	30.27	164	19.13	
Rural Districts	203,500	3,055	15.01	15.31	2,520	12.38	13.49	29.97	72	23.57	
Const. Districts :											
Aberdare Urban	40,240	563	13.99	14.55	622	15.46	15.61	28.42	13	23.09	
Mount'n Ash Urban	30,670	462	15.06	14.91	390	12.72	15.39	25.97	8	17.32	
Caerphilly Urban	37,110	764	20.59	19.56	407	10.97	14.70	27.49	12	15.71	
Gelligaer Urban	36,210	644	17.79	18.32	422	11.65	14.68	48.14	18	27.95	
Bridgend Urban	14,500	261	18.00	17.10	154	10.62	11.26	34.48	9	34.48	
MAESTEG URBAN	22,660	373	16.46	16.62	232	10.24	13.00	24.13	6	16.09	
Ogmore/Garw Urban	22,240	360	16.19	16.35	273	12.28	14.74	33.33	10	27.78	
Porthcawl Urban	9,980	134	13.43	13.83	140	14.03	12.07	37.31	2	14.93	
Penybont Rural	35,270	535	15.17	15.17	499	14.15	12.59	42.99	19	35.51	
Neath M.B.	31,250	457	14.62	13.60	360	11.52	13.02	26.26	9	19.69	
Neath Rural	41,350	589	14.24	13.96	470	11.37	14.44	28.86	12	20.37	
Llantrisant Rural	25,700	426	16.58	15.92	271	10.54	13.49	32.86	11	25.82	
Pontypridd Urban	37,700	537	14.24	13.67	466	12.36	13.35	18.62	4	7.45	
Glyncorrwg Urban	9,660	216	22.36	21.91	107	11.08	15.84	37.04	4	18.52	
Port Talbot M.B.	47,130	883	18.74	18.18	496	10.52	13.57	28.31	18	20.39	
Barry M.B.	41,920	731	17.44	16.74	448	10.69	11.76	31.46	13	17.78	
Cardiff Rural	38,000	572	15.05	15.80	515	13.55	11.65	27.97	12	20.98	
Cowbridge M.B.	1,030	13	12.61	13.25	19	18.45	19.19	-	-	-	
Cowbridge Rural	19,240	309	16.06	17.99	141	7.33	12.75	22.65	4	12.94	
Penarth Urban	19,040	303	15.91	15.75	241	12.66	11.77	23.10	5	16.50	
Gower Rural	11,890	185	15.56	16.49	147	12.36	10.38	32.43	5	27.03	
Llwchwr Urban	25,760	349	13.55	13.96	310	12.03	14.08	34.38	7	20.06	
Pontardawe Rural	32,050	439	13.70	13.97	477	14.88	16.07	27.33	9	20.50	
Rhondda M.B.	107,400	1,524	14.19	13.91	1,446	13.46	15.61	29.53	26	17.06	



INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
Maesteg Urban District

The following Table gives the number of cases of infectious diseases originally notified during 1956 and of the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the notifying medical practitioner or medical superintendent of the infectious diseases hospitals. A column is also given showing the number of deaths from certain infectious diseases during the year.

DISEASE	ORIGINALLY NOTIFIED		AFTER FINAL CORRECTION		TOTAL FOR 1956 AFTER FINAL CORRECTION	NUMBER OF DEATHS IN 1956	
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females
SCARLET FEVER .....	14	12	13	12	25	-	-
WHOOPING COUGH .....	3	-	3	-	3	-	-
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS .....	0	1	-	1	1	-	-
ACUTE POLIOENCEPHALITIS ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MEASLES .....	52	53	51	53	104	-	-
DIPHTHERIA .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DYSENTERY .....	8	3	8	3	11	-	-
FOOD POISONING .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE PNEUMONIA .....	14	12	14	10	24	3	1
ERYSIPELAS .....	5	4	5	4	9	-	-
MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION ...	1	0	1	0	1	-	-
PUERPERAL PYREXIA .....	-	7	-	7	7	-	-
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM ....	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
PARATYPHOID FEVERS .....	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY ...	19	8	18	7	25	4	2
TUBERCULOSIS, OTHER FORMS...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-



# INFANT DEATHS, 1956

---

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
M	5 hours	Prematurity
M	9 hours	Cerebral Birth Injury
M	12 hours	Prematurity
M	13½ hours	Prematurity
M	3 days	Prematurity
M	2 weeks	Thrush Oesophagitis
F	4 months	Asphyxia - misadventure P.M. Inquest
M	7 months	Acute Broncho-Pneumonia
M	7 months	Asphyxia due to inhalation of food - misadventure P.M. Inquest

---



TUBERCULOSIS  
Maesteg Urban District

---

In the course of the year, the number of notifications of Tuberculosis (Pulmonary and Other Forms) received, was 25. This figure shows an increase of 6 on the previous year.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year was 18 males and 7 females.

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 6, of these 3 had not been notified previously as cases of Tuberculosis.

There were no deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Distribution of notifications and deaths is as follows :-

<u>Ward</u>	<u>NOTIFICATIONS</u>		<u>DEATHS</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Caerau	9	0	2	0
Nantylfyllon	4	0	1	0
East	5	0	2	0
West	7	0	1	0
<hr/>				
Totals ...	25	0	6	0
<hr/>				

At the end of the year, after death removals, cures, altered diagnosis and transfers had been adjusted, there were 269 cases on the Department's Register, made up as follows :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Males ...	113	18
Females ...	117	21
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	230	39
	<hr/>	<hr/>







The following Tables give the number of notifications received for the period 1946 - 1956 (inclusive) :-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1946	8	19	27
1947	21	19	40
1948	12	20	32
1949	24	15	39
1950	17	15	32
1951	8	16	24
1952	18	18	36
1953	17	14	31
1954	15	20	35
1955	5	12	17
1956	18	7	25

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1946	8	6	14
1947	8	7	15
1948	5	7	12
1949	6	6	12
1950	3	3	6
1951	3	4	7
1952	2	6	8
1953	3	1	4
1954	3	2	5
1955	2	0	2
1956	0	0	0

No special provision is made by the Council for the treatment of Tuberculosis, but this is left to the Medical Practitioner in attendance who, either directly or through the Medical Officer of Health, obtains the assistance of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board. No action was taken by the Council for the removal of patients under Section 172, Public Health Act, 1936, during the year 1956.



## MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY

---

We were able to arrange a visit of the Mass Radiography Service during 1956 and the Unit was at Bethel English Baptist Church, Church Street, Maesteg, from 13th November to 28th November.

A good deal of advance publicity was arranged by the Mass Radiography Service and the Health Department co-operated as fully as possible by arranging the display of posters and a message was broadcast on several occasions over the Radio Relay Service by kind permission of the directors. Leaflets were distributed to every house in the Maesteg District and the cost was met by the Council.

The total number x-rayed during this period is shown by Table I :-

Table I

	Males	Females	Total
General Population	2,665	2,188	4,853
School-children	465	453	918
Total	3,130	2,641	5,771

The number attending was highly encouraging. In fact, very nearly a third of the total population over 15 years was x-rayed.

Table II shows the abnormalities requiring further observation discovered during the survey and Table III gives details of the cases referred to as "other pulmonary abnormalities" in Table II.

So far as Tuberculosis is concerned, four new cases were discovered. This is a very small number and reflects a welcome trend as far as the health of the population is concerned, but on the other hand, it casts serious doubts as to the value of such an x-ray survey if considered solely from the point of view of case-finding. The expense of finding these four cases has plainly been prodigious indeed, and a re-valuation of the functions of mass radiography is obviously needed.



TABLE II

DETAILS OF CASES REFERRED TO CHEST PHYSICIAN FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION.

	Total No. X-Rayed	(1) Total No. Referred to Chest Physician	(2) Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis		(3) Healed Primary Tuberculosis	(4) Further Observation	(5) Other Pulmonary Abnormalities	(6) N.A.D.	(7) Failed to attend
			New	Old					
General Population	4,853	36	4	3	18	1	6	2	2
School- children	918	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals ...	5,771	37	4	3	19	1	6	2	2

TABLE III

DETAILS OF "OTHER PULMONARY ABNORMALITIES" (SEE COL. 5, TABLE II).

Bronchiectasis	...	2
Pneumokoniosis	...	1
Spontaneous Pneumothorax	...	1
Benign Tumours of the	...	1
Lung & Mediastinum	...	1
Carcinoma of Lung	...	1
		<hr/> 6



## HEALTH SERVICES

---

The following Health Services are the responsibility of the Glamorgan County Council :-

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Domiciliary Midwifery.
3. Health Visiting.
4. Home Nursing.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Ambulance Services.
7. Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care.
8. Domestic Help Service.
9. Duties connected with Lunacy and Mental Health.
10. Provision of Health Centres.

These services are administered through the Divisional Office, County Council Offices, Quarella Road, Bridgend, with the exception of Lunacy, Mental Health and the County Ambulance Service.

The Hospitals of Mid-Glamorgan are administered by the Regional Hospital Board through the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital Management Committee in Neath.

---

### (1) SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

The Medical Inspection of school-children and the holding of Ophthalmic, Dental & Orthopaedic Clinics is done by the County Council. The various age groups are examined periodically and from the school inspections, referred to the various clinics if so required.

Cod liver oil and malt is provided for cases of under-nutrition or under-development. In cases of Infectious Disease special steps are taken in conjunction with the school authorities to exclude all scholars who have been in contact with the patient.





(2)

## MATERNAL & CHILD WELFARE

The Glamorgan County Council maintains an ante-natal clinic every Monday afternoon in the Maternal & Child Welfare Centre, Church Street, Maesteg. The Regional Hospital Board provides, in addition, ante-natal clinics attended by local practitioners in the same building.

Child Welfare Clinics are held every Tuesday morning and afternoon, while, in addition, clinics are held fortnightly in Trinity Church Hall, Nantyllyllon on Thursdays, and in the Spiritualist Church Hall, Caerau, on Wednesdays and at the Park Site Mission Hall on alternate Thursday mornings.

The Maesteg General Hospital provides accommodation for 11 patients. Other cases are delivered by the County Midwives at home or referred to the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital, Bridgend, for delivery. All maternity bookings are made by the Divisional Medical Officer via the general practitioners in the clinic.

The County Council also provides for certain aspects of the care and treatment of mentally defective or physically handicapped children. These cases are brought to light by school medical inspections and child welfare clinics or referred by general practitioners. In Maesteg a school clinic is provided in Plasnowydd School for Dental, Orthopaedic and Refraction cases. Homeless or neglected children are provided for in the Cottage Home, Bridgend, through the Children's Officer.

---

(3)

## TUBERCULOSIS

Institutions are maintained by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis. A Tuberculosis Clinic is held in the Maternal & Child Welfare Centre, Church Street, Maesteg on Wednesday and Friday mornings of each week.

---

(4)

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Officers of the National Assistance Board, stationed locally, have a temporary Office in Church Street, Maesteg.



(5)

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Maesteg Isolation Hospital provides accommodation for 18 patients.

---

(6)

#### SMALLPOX

Cases of suspected or confirmed Smallpox in South Wales will be admitted in the first instance to Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda. This Hospital can be made ready to admit patients within an hour from the time of notification. Where the consultant decides that a case should be admitted to a smallpox hospital he will arrange directly with Penrhys Hospital for the Hospital to be made ready to receive the patient.

---

(7)

#### GENERAL

The Maesteg General Hospital provides accommodation for 58 patients.

---

(8)

#### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination of children against whooping cough, diphtheria, smallpox and poliomyelitis is carried out by the County Council, and for further particulars enquiries should be made at the nearest clinic.



The ambulance services are under the direction of the County Council. ALL CALLS for the service are dealt with via the main station at Aberkenfig (Telephone No. - ABERKENFIG 303), while sub-stations are established in the Maesteg General Hospital and in Caerau. Requests for ambulances not required until the next day are met by means of a certificate signed by a doctor, nurse or midwife and handed in at the local ambulance station not later than 8 p.m. on the previous day.

In emergencies, or ambulances required on the same day, the requests are made by telephone to Aberkenfig and the certificate handed to the ambulance driver when conveying the patient. The conveyance of maternal cases is arranged in the same manner. In cases of accidents or other sudden emergencies occurring immediately adjacent to an ambulance sub-station, drivers have been instructed to deal with the emergency and themselves inform the ambulance control station of the action they are taking, provided an ambulance is available in the sub-station at the time of emergency.

(10)

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

The County Council provides for the following Clinics :-

1. Ante-Natal	...	Monday afternoons	...	Maesteg
2. Child Welfare	...	Tuesdays all day	...	Maesteg
3. Child Welfare	...	Wednesday afternoons (fortnightly)	...	Caerau
4. Child Welfare	...	Thursday afternoons (fortnightly)	...	Nantyffyllon
5. Child Welfare	...	Thursday mornings (fortnightly)	...	Park Site, Maesteg
6. Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation		Thursday mornings (monthly)	...	Maesteg
7. Birth Control	...	1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons (monthly)	...	Bridgend

School Clinics :-

8. Orthopaedic	...	Monthly	...	Plasnewydd School, Maesteg
9. Dental	...	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday afternoons and all day Thursday		Plasnewydd School, Maesteg
10. Refraction	...	Periodically as required	...	Plasnewydd School, Maesteg



The Regional Hospital Board provides for :-

1. Clinics in the Maesteg General Hospital -

Medical	...	...	Alternative Tuesday afternoons Fortnightly (by appointment)
Surgical	...	...	Thursday afternoons
Gynaecological	...	...	Friday mornings
Ophthalmic	...	...	Periodically Tuesday mornings
E.N.T.	...	...	Indefinite Alternative Monday afternoons
Dermatology	...	...	As required
Paediatrics	...	...	Thursday afternoons (monthly)
Radiology	...	...	Daily

2. Ante-Natal Clinics for General Practitioners in relation to the Maternal Section, General Hospital, held in the Child Welfare Centre, Church Street, Maesteg.
3. Chest Clinics on Wednesday and Friday mornings in the Maesteg Tuberculosis Clinic, Child Welfare Centre, Church Street, Maesteg.
4. Venereal Diseases - V.D. Clinic, opposite General Station, Port Talbot. Treatment is free and confidential.

---

(11) LABORATORY SERVICES

Bacteriological and Pathological examinations are carried out free of charge by the Public Health Laboratory at Cardiff. Chemical analysis is also undertaken, for which a charge is made.

---





PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - SECTION 176  
POWER OF LOCAL AUTHORITY IN RESPECT OF THE  
PREVENTION & TREATMENT OF BLINDNESS

---

All arrangements under this Section are undertaken by the Glamorgan County Council.

---

CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES

---

The Inspector of the local branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, maintains close co-operation with the Department. Each year a number of cases of neglected or ill-treated children is investigated by the Inspector, sometimes at the request of the Health Department.

---

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

---

Premises where cases of infectious disease occur are visited where this is thought necessary. The taking of swabs and immunisation of all contacts where applicable, is undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health.

If removal to hospital is necessary, infected rooms are disinfected by the Department at the patient's home. When the patient is isolated at home, this is done on termination of the illness. Infected clothing, bedding, etc., are sometimes removed on request to the Maesteg Isolation Hospital and dealt with by steam-disinfection.

---

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948  
BURIAL OR CREMATION OF THE DEAD

---

There were no burials arranged during the year under the Act.



SUMMARY OF VISITS UNDERTAKEN  
BY THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1956

---

INSPECTIONS :-

Water Supply	....	....	....	....	138
Drainage	....	....	....	....	31
Offensive Trades	....	....	....	....	13
Factories & Workshops	....	....	....	....	41
Bakehouses	....	.....	....	....	23
Public Conveniences	....	....	....	....	56
Cinemas, etc	....	....	....	....	24
Refuse Collection & Disposal		....	....	....	161
Rats and Mice	....	....	....	....	682
Houses under the Public Health & Housing Acts				....	830
Overcrowding	....	....	....	....	8
Verminous Premises	....	....	....	....	84
Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	....	38
Food Shops	....	....	....	....	243
Dairies	....	....	....	....	10
Ice-Cream Premises	....	....	....	....	43
Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	312
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	....	....	19
Pet Animals Shop (Market Stall)		....	....	....	12



## HOUSING

---

During the year, housing accommodation had been found in the Urban Area for 19 families. The approximate number on the waiting list for Council Houses was 810 at the end of the year.

Number of new houses erected during the year :-

By the Local Authority	...	88 (Partly Completed)
By other persons or bodies	..	24 (Including 2 Bungalows)

Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority :-

(a) Under the Housing Acts	...	816
(b) Other Powers	...	10

---

## DISINFESTATION

---

Council and private dwellings were disinfested during the year, the material used being D.D.T. and Gammexane in various forms.

The Health Department is notified when a new house has been allocated by the Council to a tenant, and the old house and furniture are inspected before a new residence is taken up. If found necessary, the house and furniture are then treated by the Department.

The following Table gives the number of houses treated during the year :-

Council Houses (Bug Infestation)	...	8
Private Dwellings " "	...	11
Council Houses (Cockroach " "	...	14
Private Dwellings " "	...	25
Council Houses (Ant " "	...	6
Private Dwellings " "	...	20

In some cases, insecticide in various forms is issued to individual householders with instructions as to its proper use.



## STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED

---

During the year, 78 Abatement Notices under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936, were served.

46 Notices under Section 138, Public Health Act, 1936 and Section 30, Water Act, 1945 were served, to provide dwellings with a sufficient supply of water for domestic and sanitary purposes.

5 Notices were served under Section 39(i)(c), Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of defective drainage systems.

7 Notices were served under Section 58, Public Health Act, 1936 in respect of dangerous, dilapidated and ruinous buildings.

## COURT PROCEEDINGS

Arising from Abatement Notices served, Court proceedings were instituted against property owners for failure to abate nuisances arising from structural and sanitary defects, in respect of 21 properties. Court Orders were made for the repairs to be carried out in respect of 16 properties.

---

## HOUSING REPAIRS & RENTS ACT, 1954

During the year, 2 applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair which were granted.

Four applications were received from landlords for Revocation of Certificates and of these, 3 were granted and 1 temporarily deferred.

## RENT & MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1920 - 1939.

During the year, 1 application was received for a Rent Certificate and this was temporarily deferred.





# WATER

---

During the year, 17 samples of water were submitted for analysis to the County Laboratory. The samples are specified below :-

<u>Taken from</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Bacteriological Examination</u>	<u>Chemical Analysis</u>
Tap, Market Hall	23.1.56.	Satisfactory	-
Tap, Duffryn Road	7.5.56.	Satisfactory	-
Tap, Tonna Road	7.5.56.	"	-
Tap, Talbot Street (Health Department)	7.5.56.	"	-
Garth Swimming Pool - deep end	20.6.56.	"	) The physical characters ) are satisfactory
Garth Swimming Pool - shallow end	20.6.56.	"	
Tap, Market Hall	25.6.56.	"	-
Tap, Home & Colonial Stores	25.6.56.	"	-
Maesteg Swimming Pool - shallow end	12.7.56.	"	) The physical characters ) are satisfactory
Maesteg Swimming Pool - deep end	12.7.56.	"	
Tap, C.W.S., Maesteg	26.7.56.	"	-
Garnwen Farm, Water from Coal Level	5.9.56.	"	-
Tap, Lon-y-Parc	18.10.56.	"	-

Copies of all laboratory reports (with the exception of those belonging to the swimming pools) were forwarded to the Engineer and Manager, Mid-Glamorgan Water Board. Reports of all samples taken from the pools are given to the Council's Surveyor and copies sent to the Superintendent of each pool.



A new main was installed during the year in order to supply the Isolation Hospital with water, in place of the old 3-inch main which was abandoned.

With the exception of outlying farms and cottages, all houses in the Maesteg District are supplied with water from the public water mains and an adequate supply was maintained during 1956.

---



# ANNUAL RAINFALL

The total rainfall for the year, as registered at the Council's Welfare Park, was 62.51 inches. The following Table gives the rainfall records in the Area of the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board for 1956 :-

MONTH	MERTHYR MAWR (1)	BRIDGEEND (2)	SCHWYLL (3)	LLANHARAN ST. (4)	ATHAN (5)	PWLLWY (6)	MAESTEG (7)	NANT-Y- MOEL (8)	PONT-Y- CYMAER (9)
Jan'y	6.18	5.20	5.75	6.25	4.55	5.47	8.99	11.75	10.99
Feb'y	0.60	0.43	0.25	0.48	0.19	0.40	0.75	1.17	1.15
Mar	1.41	1.41	1.57	2.67	1.11	1.87	2.38	5.20	4.75
Apr	1.98	1.90	1.53	1.62	1.04	1.14	2.15	2.51	3.02
May	1.67	1.35	1.17	1.39	1.12	1.60	2.54	3.03	2.89
June	3.19	2.78	2.31	2.72	1.72	2.66	4.84	4.10	4.64
July	4.36	4.52	4.37	4.81	3.11	4.72	6.45	7.29	8.06
Aug	6.80	7.39	6.98	8.61	6.52	9.43	11.65	13.00	11.81
Sept	5.87	5.47	5.60	5.62	3.90	5.52	9.37	9.97	9.52
Oct	1.98	1.95	1.91	1.96	2.11	2.43	3.08	3.81	3.41
Nov	1.48	1.77	1.46	2.10	1.41	1.51	2.29	2.95	2.81
Dec	5.39	4.86	5.57	5.96	3.87	5.29	8.02	9.67	9.92
TOTALS	40.91	39.03	38.47	44.19	30.65	42.04	62.51	74.45	72.97

Average Annual Rainfall (Maesteg Area) over the previous  
20 years = 70.47 inches.



# FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

## 1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :-

Premises (1)	m/c line no. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	m/c line no. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	1	43	39	-	-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	2	26	25	-	-	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	3	-	-	-	-	
Total .....		69	64	-	-	





2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found :-

Particulars (1)	m/c line no. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted (7)	m/c line no. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4						4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5						5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6						6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	8						8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	9						9
(a) Insufficient	10						10
(b) Unsuitable for sexes	11						11
(c) Not separate for sexes	12						12
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)							
Total	60						60

3. - OUTWORK (SECTIONS 110 & 111) : " N I L "



# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

## RODENT CONTROL ACTIVITIES

During the year 1956, two complete maintenance treatments of the Council's Sewers were carried out. The following Table gives the state of infestation in the Area for the 12 months - April, 1956 - March, 1957

	TYPE OF PROPERTY Non-Agricultural				(5) Agricultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwellings (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (inc. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
I. Number of properties in the Area	26	5,730	767	6,523	24
II. Number of properties inspected, by :- (a) Notification (b) Survey under the Act (c) Otherwise	- 26 -	146 230 -	25 44 -	171 300 -	- 7 -
III. Total inspections and re-inspections	40	556	86	682	-
IV. Properties (in Sect. II) infested by : (a) Rats      ...      (Major      ... (Minor      ... (b) Mice      ...      (Major      ... (Minor      ...	2 - - -	- 163 - 30	- 24 - 6	2 187 - 36	- - - -
V. Infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by Local Authority      ...	2	193	30	223	-
VI. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments      ...	12	207	32	251	-



## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

---

A person shall not keep a pet shop unless licensed by the local authority in whose area the shop is situated.

The only pet shop in the Maesteg Area - that of the inside Market Hall - was again licensed during the year.

---

## OLD METAL & MARINE STORES PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, AMENDMENT ACT, 1907, SECTION 86

---

During the year, there were three persons registered under the Act.

---

## OFFENSIVE TRADES - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 SECTION 107

---

Three persons were granted Renewals of Consent to Establish an Offensive Trade during the year.

---

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 TO 1954 SLAUGHTERING

---

During the year, 11 Licences to Slaughter animals were granted in the Urban Area. The provisions of the Acts relating to humane slaughtering were carried out.

---

## FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955 SLAUGHTERHOUSE

---

There was one Licence granted during the year for the keeping of premises as a Slaughterhouse. These premises are situated at the rear of No. 263 Bridgend Road, Maesteg.



SUMMARY OF THE MEAT & OTHER FOODS  
CONDEMNED IN THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER, 1956  
Maesteg Urban District

Description	Reason for Condemnation	Approximate Weight (lbs)
1 Bovine Carcase	Tuberculosis	505
5 " Heads	"	150
28 " Lungs	"	140
5 " Livers	"	50
245 " Livers	"	2,150
46 " Lungs	Parasitic & Bacterial Diseases	230
240 Sheep Plucks	" " " "	960
110 " Livers	" " " "	310
5 Calves Lungs	" " " "	8
2 Sheep Carcases	Parasitic Diseases & Emaciation	50
Carcase Meat	Bone-taint and Bruised	314
5 Pigs Heads	Tuberculosis	50
18 " Lungs	Parasitic Diseases	36
10 " Livers	" "	30
Total ...		4,983

Other Foods :-

Canned Meat	Damaged & Blown	381
" Fruit & Veg.	" " "	628
" Milk	" " "	67
" Fish	" " "	15
" Baked Beans	" " "	14
" Soups	" " "	38
Dry Fish	Decomposition	48
Flour and Oats	Damp & Infested	64
Cheese	Mould & Decomposition	101
Liquid Egg	Decomposition	28
Bacon	"	21
Cake	Contaminated	29
Rice	"	11
Total ...		1,445





CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN  
WHOLE OR PART  
Maesteg Urban District

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1,132	538	4,300	1,799	-
Number inspected	1,083	411	3,900	1,654	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	268	5	354	28	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	24.8	1.2	9.0	1.6	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	31	-	-	5	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.0	-	-	0.3	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-



SUPERVISION OF MILK DISTRIBUTION  
FOOD & DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES & ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950

---

During the year, 24 samples of heat-treated and pasteurised milk were submitted to the laboratory for bacteriological examination. All the samples were satisfactory.

Eleven samples of ungraded milk were submitted for examination and were satisfactory.

Six samples of milk were submitted for biological examination and were free from Tubercle Bacilli.

---

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)  
(PASTEURISED & STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 - 1953

---

Under the provisions of the Regulations, 17 Dealer's Licences were issued to use the special designations "Pasteurised," "Sterilised," or "T.T. Pasteurised," in relation to milk sold in the Urban Area, during the year.

Seven Dairies are registered within the Council's Area under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.

---

ICE-CREAM  
THE FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955  
THE ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC) REGULATIONS,  
1947 TO 1952.

---

Six shop premises were registered during the year for the sale of ice-cream. Samples of ice-cream submitted to the Laboratory for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis were found to be satisfactory.

At the end of the year 1956, 85 business premises were on the Department's Register as registered under the Act for the sale of ice-cream and 6 business premises for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream. The Heat Treatment Regulations were complied with locally by the manufacturers of ice-cream.



# THE FOOD & DRUGS ACTS

---

We are indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following summary of articles sampled by the County Public Health Inspectors in the Maesteg District during the year :-

Milk	41	Canned Rhubarb	2
Butter	2	Meat Paste	1
Lime Cordial	1	Pearl Barley	1
Vinegar	1	Dripping	1
Golden Raising Powder	6	Pineapple Slices	1
Sauce	1	Canned Pudding	4
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	Fish Paste	1
Dried Peas	3	Custard Powder	1
Cornflour	1	Syrup of Figs	1
Sultanas	1	Chutney	1
Canned Fish	6	Sauce	2
Canned Tomatoes	1	Canned Peas	2
Salmon Spread	1	French Mustard	1
Ice Cream	5	Canned Beans	1
Canned Oranges	1	Sherbert Tubs	1
Canned Broth	1	Rice	2
Salad Cream	1	Condensed Milk	1
Table Jelly	2	Minced Chicken	1
White Pepper	2	Grapefruit Squash	1
Lemon Powder	1	Soda Water	1
Frozen Confection	1	Almond Marzipan	3
Cake Mixture	2	Ground Almonds	1
Pudding Powder	1	Lard	2
Jam	1	Dessicated Coconut	1
Baking Powder	2	Tea	1
Sterilised Cream	5	Jersey Cream	1
Mincemeat	1	Tomato Sauce	1
Peanut Butter	1	Orange Drink	2
Non-Brewed Condiment	2	Canned Soup	1
Spirit Vinegar	1	Cochineal Colouring	1
Puff Pastry Mixture	2	Sago	2
Mint Sauce	3	Cooking Fat	1
Canned Meat	1	Glace Cherries	1
Lemon Barley Water	1	Macaroni	1

Total      ...      149

Two samples of milk were found, on analysis, to contain not less than 4% and 5% of added water respectively. Proceedings were taken against the Vendor resulting in a fine of £8 plus £1. 13. 6d. Witness' Costs and 15/- Analysts Fee.





